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and the Daring Rescue



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Lassie

AND THE DARING RESCUE

BY CHARLES SPAIN VERRAL

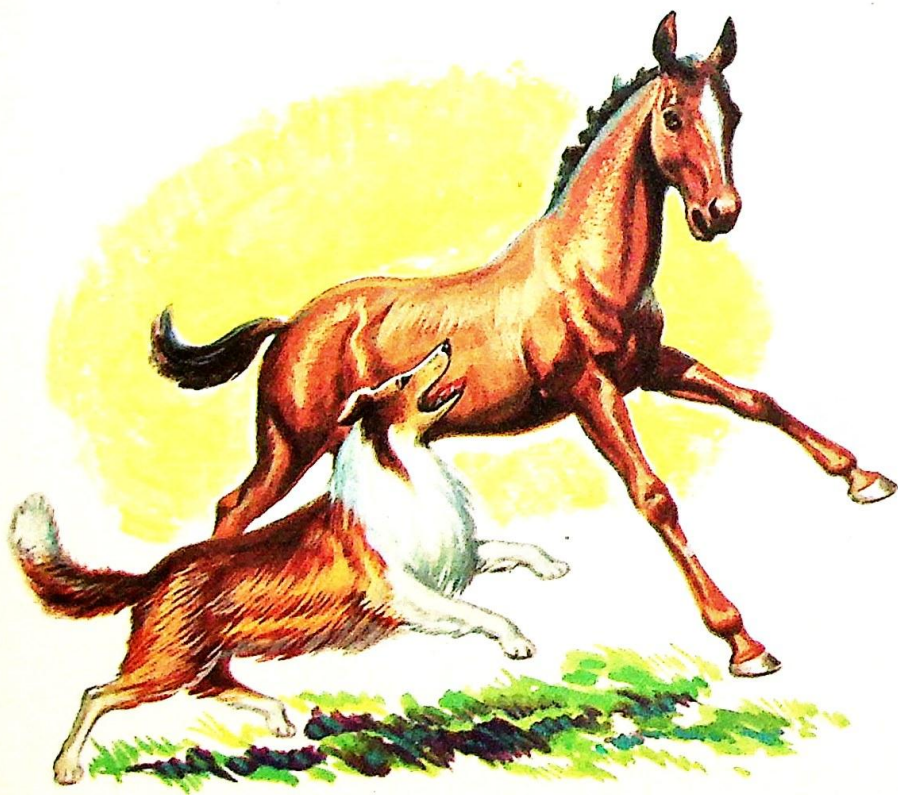
PICTURES BY E. JOSEPH DREANY

AUTHORIZED EDITION



SIMON AND SCHUSTER • NEW YORK

THIS IS A BRAND-NEW BOOK, BASED ON THE
FAMOUS "LASSIE" TELEVISION SHOW



Lassie and her young master, Jeff Miller, are such good friends that even an angry farmer cannot keep them apart. And that farmer soon finds out that Lassie is a big help to have around.

Lassie is the famous dog starred in MGM Pictures.
See Lassie now on television.

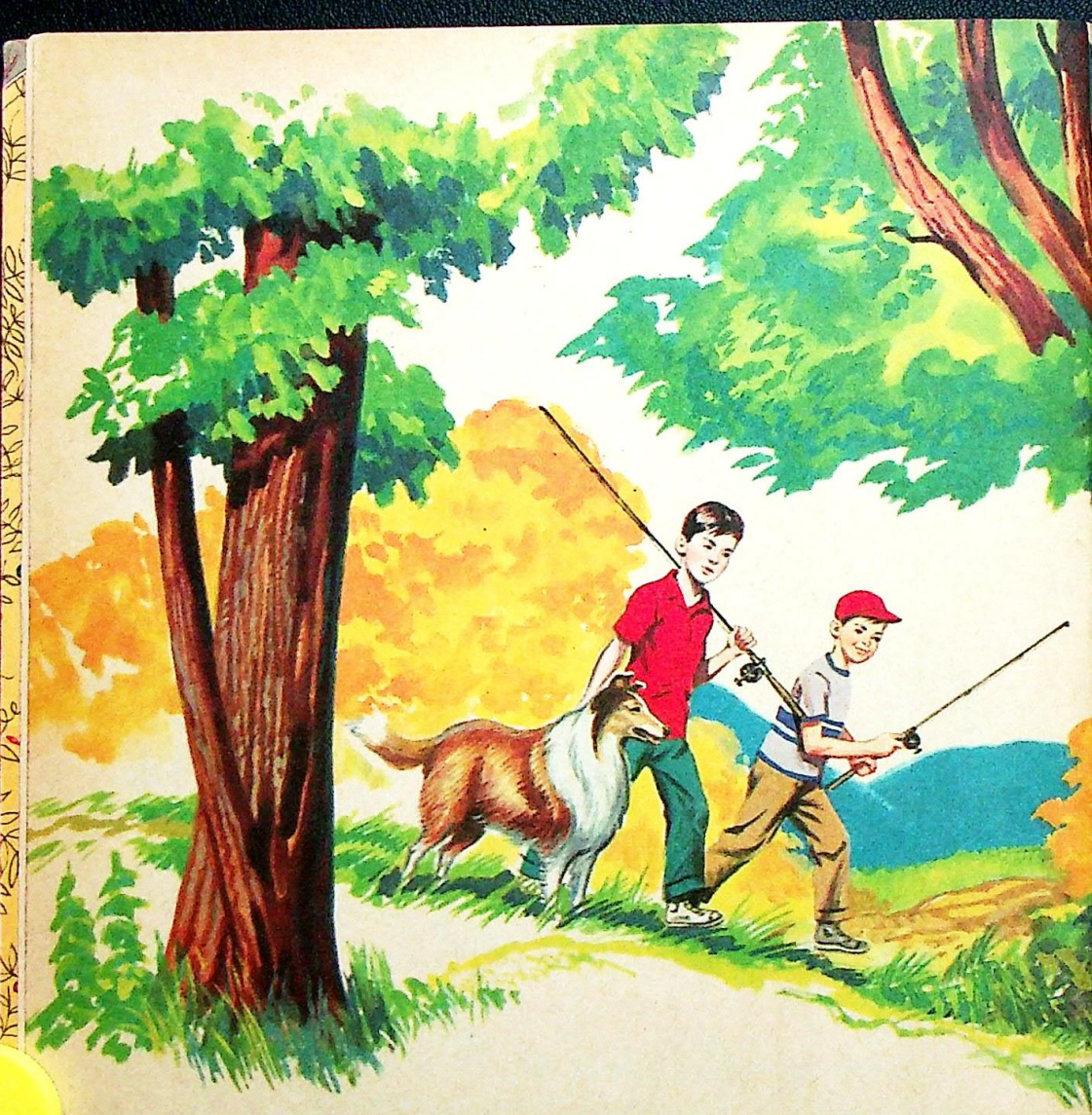
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"Come, Lassie!" called Jeff Miller to his dog.

Jeff was very proud of the beautiful collie. She was smart, and well trained, too. During the long, hot summer Lassie went everywhere with Jeff.

So that morning when Jeff and his best friend, Porky, were going fishing, Lassie went along.



"I've found a wonderful place," said Porky excitedly. "It's the creek over on Mr. Kent's farm. It's just filled with fish!"

"Sounds good," said Jeff. "Let's try it!"

Jeff and Porky and Lassie had just crossed into Mr. Kent's property and were heading toward the creek when Mr. Kent rode up in a jeep.

"Wait a minute, boys," he called. "Don't bring that dog on my land. Didn't you see that sign?"

He pointed to a sign nailed to a tree. On it was printed: NO DOGS ALLOWED ON THIS PROPERTY.



"I've a new colt over there. I can't risk having him chased by a dog and maybe breaking a leg."

"But Lassie doesn't chase horses," Jeff said.

"I'm taking no chances," replied Mr. Kent. "You boys are welcome to fish in my creek. But leave your dog home." He drove away.



There was nothing for Jeff and Porky to do but turn around and take Lassie home.

"She'll follow us right back to Mr. Kent's place unless I tie her up," Jeff said miserably. "And I don't want to do that. I guess we just can't go fishing."



But Gramps offered to help. "You boys go along. I'll keep Lassie. She'll stay with me," he said.

So Jeff and Porky decided to spend the rest of the day fishing. Jeff's mother packed them a good lunch of sandwiches and fruit and off they went.

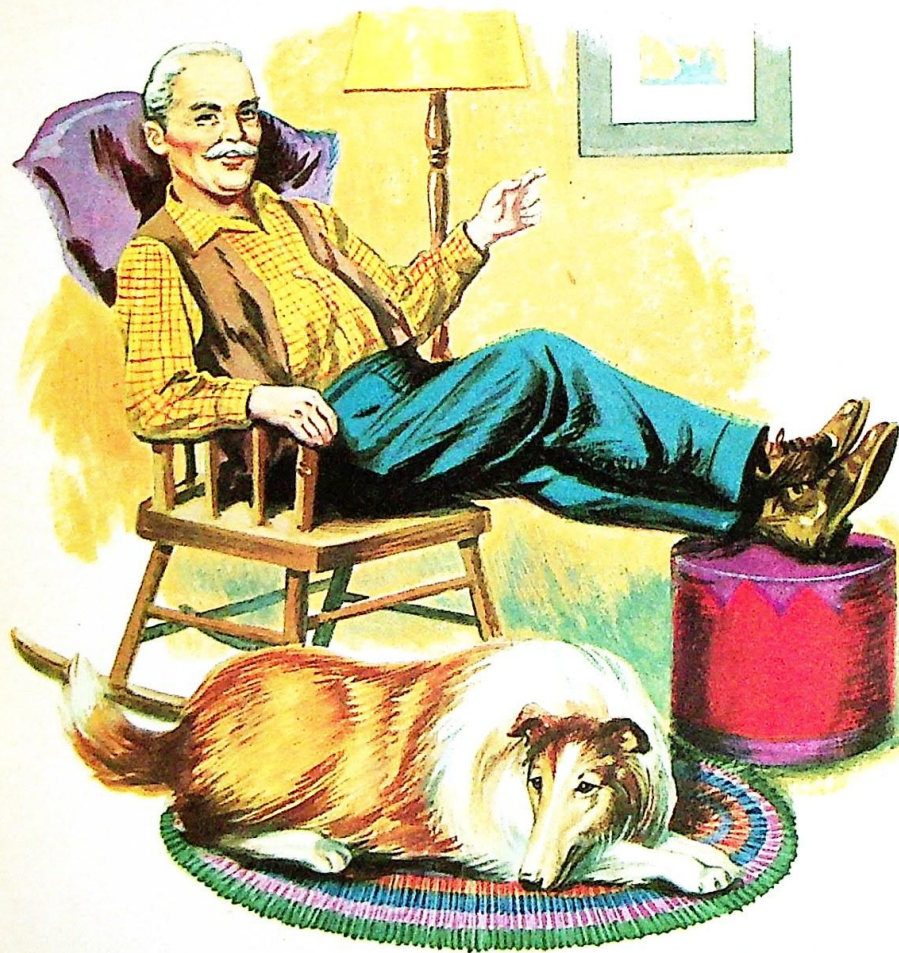




Gramps kept Lassie by his side as he did the farm chores. Lassie was used to helping on the farm.

Her special job was to bring the cows in for milking in the late afternoon. All Jeff had to say was "Herd, Lassie!"

And the collie would run barking after the cows and drive them out of the pasture and up the lane to the barn.



After the noonday meal, Jeff's mother drove to town to do some shopping.

Gramps stretched out in his easy chair. Lassie lay at his feet.

"That's a good girl," Gramps said. "Just stay with me and you won't get into any trouble."



In a little while Gramps yawned. And pretty soon his eyes closed and he was asleep.

Lassie stood up and, ever so silently, moved to the door. She gripped the door knob with her teeth and turned it.

When the door swung open, Lassie shot outside.



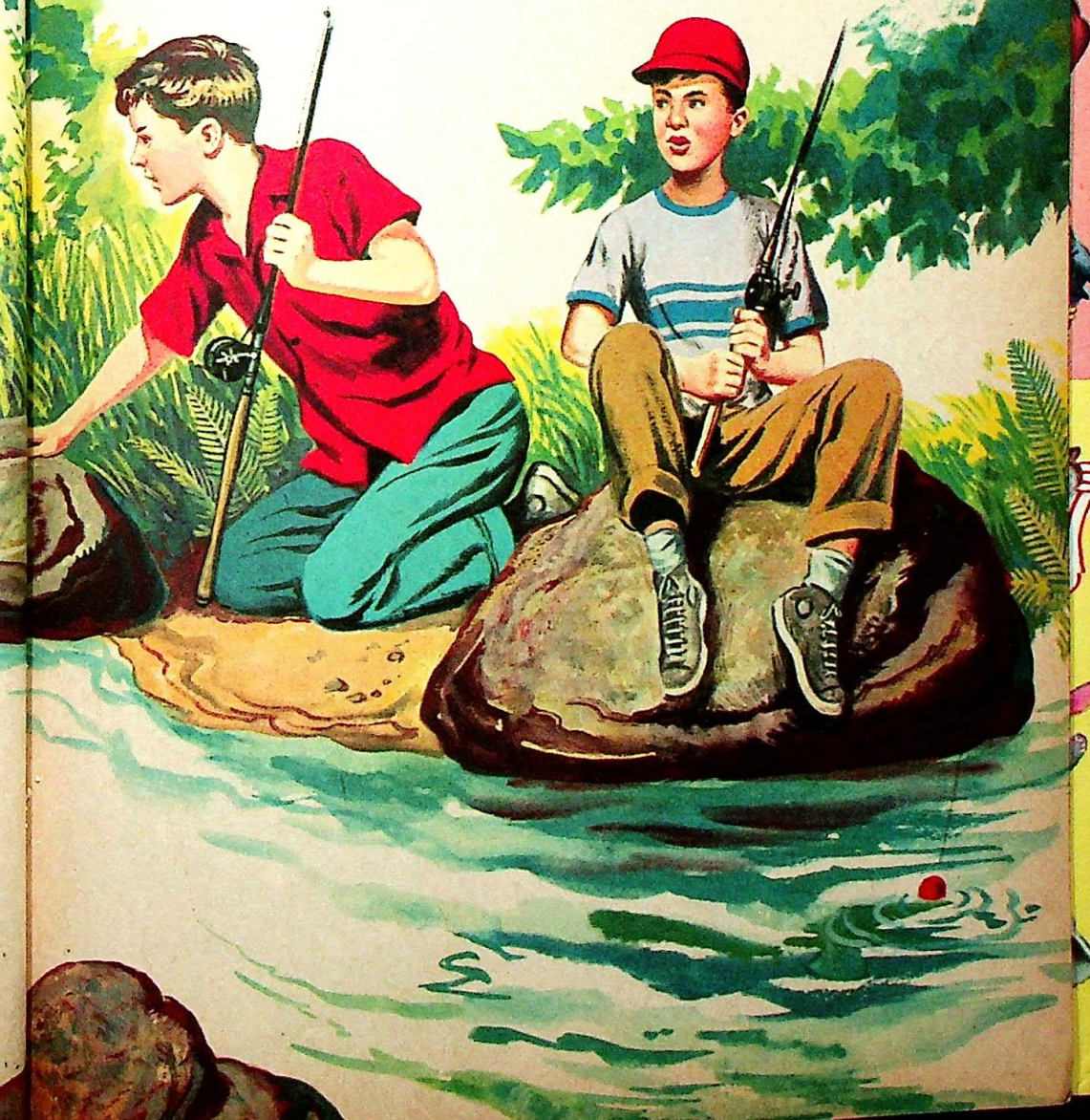
Down on the bank of the creek, Porky and Jeff were having a wonderful time.

"You certainly found a great spot," Jeff said to Porky. "I've never caught so many fish in my life."

Suddenly he heard the bushes rustle, and he looked up. There was Lassie, waving her tail.

"Oh oh!" Jeff said. "She must have got away from Gramps. I hope Mr. Kent doesn't see her."

"We'd better start for home," Porky said. "We don't want to have any trouble."

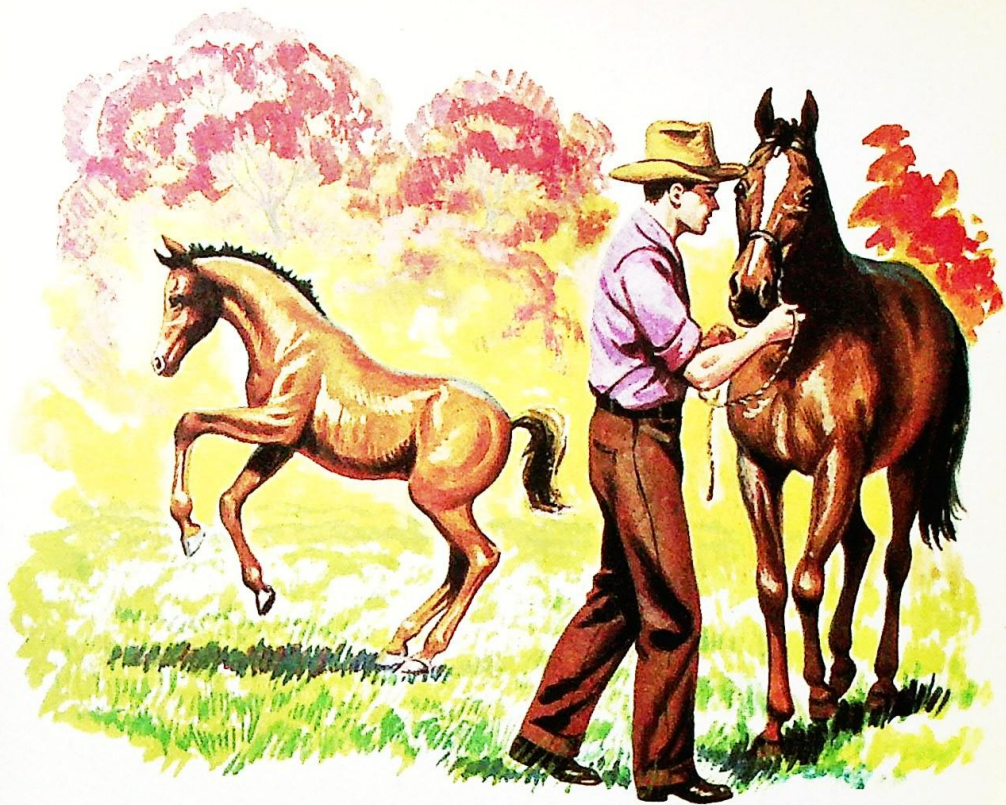


Just then who should come along but Mr. Kent, waving a friendly greeting. Then he saw Lassie.

"We took her home," Jeff said quickly. "She must have got away and tracked us down. I'm sorry, Mr. Kent."

"You'll have to get her out of here," said Mr. Kent sharply. "If you boys can't do your fishing without that dog coming along, you'd better not come back, ever."





The boys pulled in their lines and left the creek, with Lassie following behind them.

They passed by the pasture where the new colt was. One of Mr. Kent's hired men was there, putting a rope around the mother horse's neck to lead her back to the stable. The colt was frisking around on his long slender legs.

"The fellow's left the gate open!" Mr. Kent gasped. "If that colt takes it into his head to get out of there . . ."

And just then, the colt turned and began running—straight for the open gate.

“Stop that colt!” Mr. Kent yelled.

But it was too late. The colt was already through the opening and running across the field beyond.



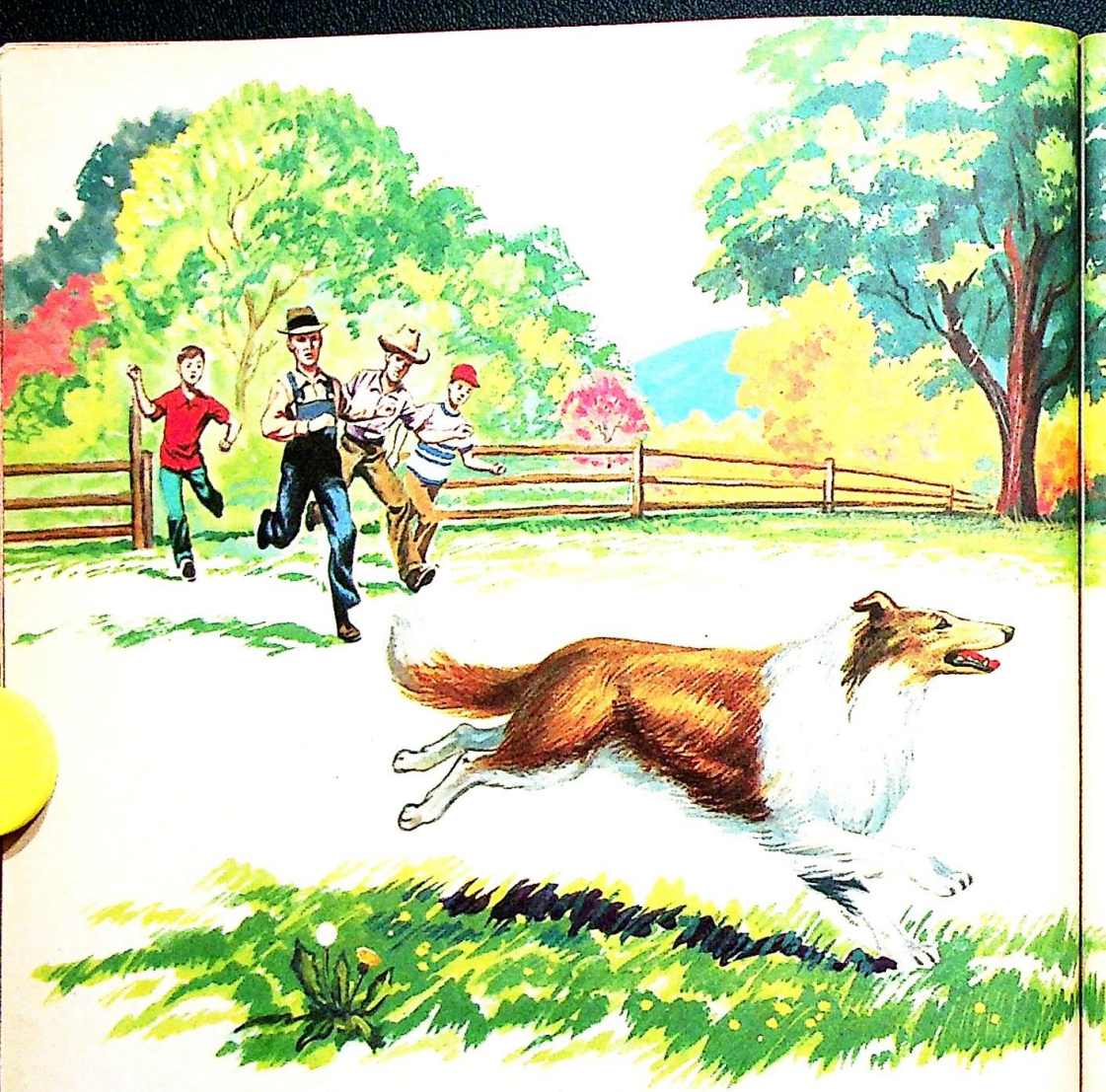
"He's making for that sand pit!" Mr. Kent said.
"He'll fall over the edge unless he's stopped!"

Jeff touched Lassie on the head.

"Herd, Lassie," he said softly. "Herd!"

Then Lassie was off like a streak.





"Stop that dog!" said Mr. Kent frantically. "She'll scare the colt."

"No she won't, Mr. Kent," said Jeff. "Lassie is trained to herd cows. She can head the colt off from that pit."



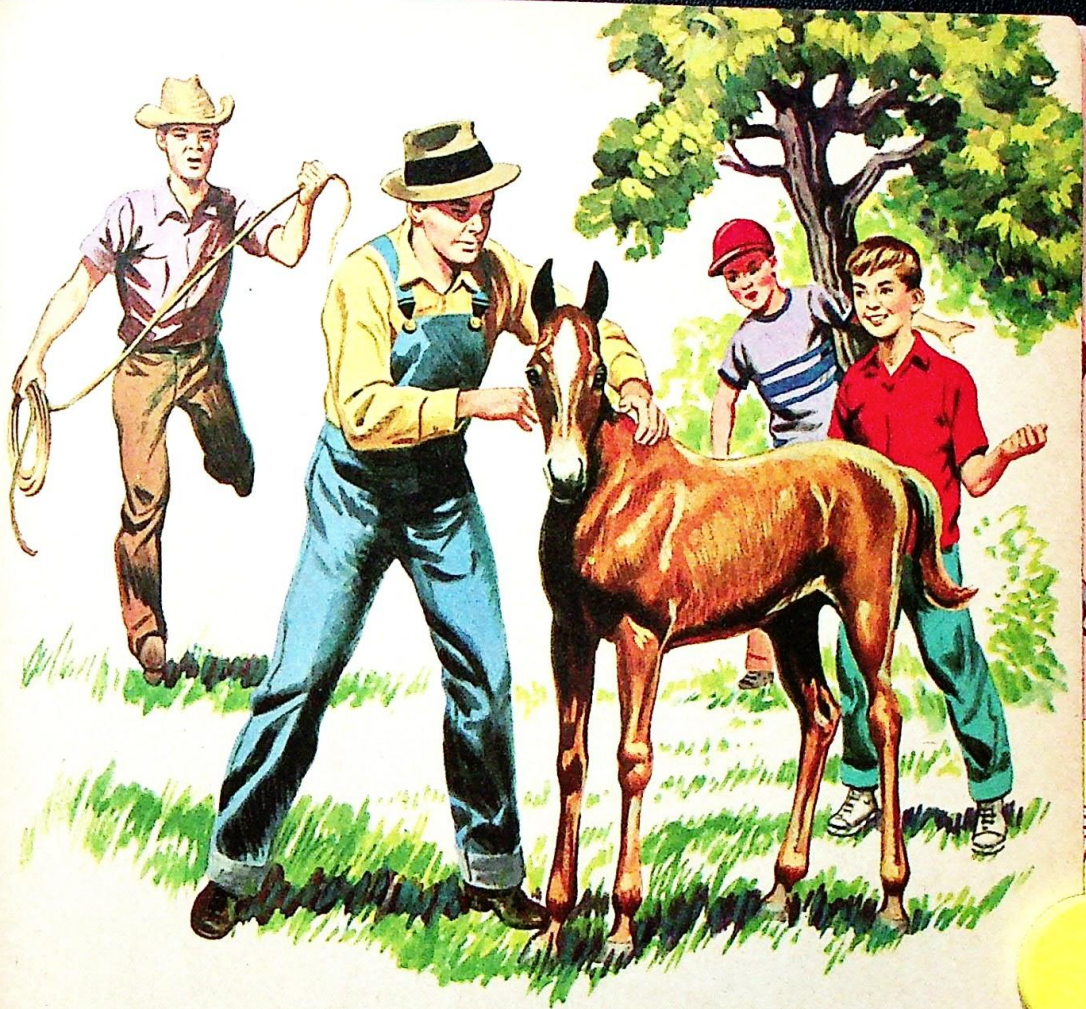
Lassie raced across the field at top speed. But the colt was still headed for the sand pit, and running faster than ever.

"Lassie will never get there in time," Porky groaned.

The colt was almost at the very edge of the sand pit when Lassie leaped ahead and cut across in front of the young horse. The collie turned in a flash and, facing the colt, began barking fiercely.

The colt halted, puzzled. Then he swerved to one side to try to get past Lassie. But again Lassie headed him off.





Mr. Kent and Porky and Jeff were now racing across the field. So was the hired man.

Mr. Kent got to the colt first and held him around the neck with his arm until the hired man came up with a rope.

"Whew!" Porky said. "That was close!"

When the colt was finally led away to the stable with his mother, Mr. Kent turned to Lassie. He put out his hand and the collie offered her paw.

"You're one fine dog," Mr. Kent said. "If it hadn't been for you I would have lost that colt. You've taught me something today, Lassie."





Then Mr. Kent walked over to the sign he had nailed to the tree. He took out a pencil.

"I think I'd better make a few changes here, boys," he said.

Jeff and Porky watched Mr. Kent as he worked on his sign.

"Yes, indeed," Mr. Kent said as he patted the collie's head. "Lassie will always be welcome on this farm."





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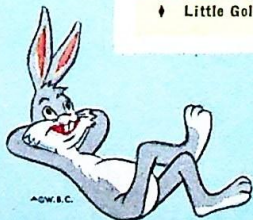
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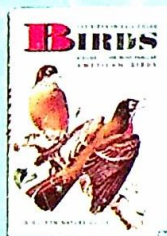
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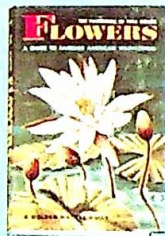
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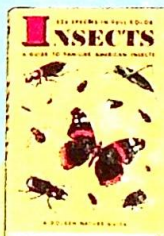
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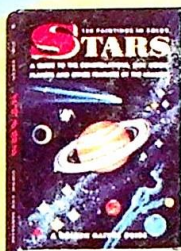
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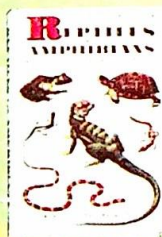
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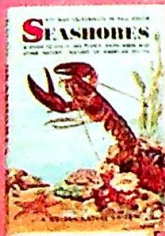
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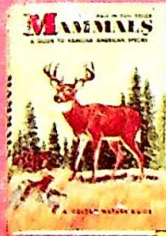
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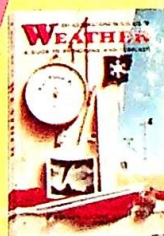
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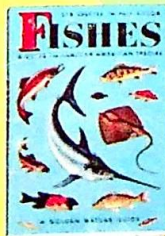
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